

REMARKS

Request for Reconsideration, Informal Matters, Claims Pending

The non-final Office action mailed on 13 March 2006 has been considered carefully. Reconsideration of the claimed invention in view of the amendments above and the discussion below is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 and 18 stand allowed.

The Examiner has withdrawn the restriction requirement applied to Claims 19-24.

Claims 1-38 are pending.

Allowability of Claims Over Mildh

Rejection Summary

Claims 14-17, 25-26 and 34-36 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) for anticipation by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0193139 (Mildh).

Allowability of Claim 14

Regarding Claim 14, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Mildh does not disclose or suggest a

... method in a communication device, the method comprising:
receiving system information,

the system information including pointer information indicating where the communication device may obtain information about multiple core networks sharing a common access network from which the system information was received;

attempting to connect to one of the multiple core networks using the information about multiple core networks sharing the common access network from which the system information was received.

Mildh discloses selecting among GERAN or UTRAN technologies. According to Mildh, at para., [0015], the selection is based on registration information in the HLR, wherein the network may select the technology for the terminal. At para. [0035], Mildh alternatively permit the terminal to select the technology based on information stored in a SIM card on the terminal. Thus there is no reason for Mildh to provide system information "... about multiple core networks sharing a common access network from which the system information was received...." Mildh also fails to discuss sending system information including "... pointer information indicating where the communication device may obtain information about multiple core networks sharing a common access network...." At para. [0009], Mildh discusses furnishing a mobile station with parameter information for selecting the mode of operation of the mobile station in a mixed system comprising multiple core networks. Claim 14 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 15

Regarding Claim 14, Mildh fails to disclose or suggest inc combination with the limitations of Claim 14,

... selecting the one of the multiple core networks to which the communication device attempts to connect using the information about multiple core networks sharing the common access network from which the system information message was received.

At para. [0018], Mildh discloses that the network selects the mode of operation, i.e., GERAN or UTRAN, for the mobile station. In Mildh, the mode of operation determines to which access network the mobile station connects. Claim 15 is thus further patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 16

Regarding Claim 16, Mildh fails to disclose or suggest inc combination with the limitations of Claim 14, "... obtaining an identity for the core network to which the communication device attempts to connect using the pointer information." As noted above, Mildh does not send pointer information. Claim 16 is thus further patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 17

Regarding Claim 17, Mildh fails to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 14,

... the system information including a common identity for the multiple core networks sharing the common access network,
attempting to connect to one of the multiple core networks sharing the common access network from which the system information was received upon satisfaction of a condition,
attempting to connect to a core network using the common identity when the condition is not satisfied.

Claim 17 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 25

Regarding Claim 25, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Mildh does not disclose or suggest a

... method in a communication device, the method comprising:
receiving information about multiple core networks sharing a common access network,
the information including at least one of identities of at least some of the multiple core networks sharing the common access network, core network domain information, information on services supported by at least some of the multiple core networks sharing the common access network;
selecting a core network to which the communication device attempts to connect using the information received.

Mildh discloses selecting among GERAN or UTRAN technologies. According to Mildh, at para., [0015], the selection is based on registration information in the HLR, wherein the network may select the technology for the terminal. At para. [0035], Mildh alternatively permit the terminal to select the technology based on information stored in a SIM card on the terminal. At para. [0009], Mildh discusses furnishing a mobile station with parameter information for selecting the mode of operation of the mobile station in a mixed system comprising multiple core networks. Thus in Mildh, the mobile station does not receive "... information about multiple core networks sharing a common access network ... information on services support by at least some of the multiple core networks sharing the common access network". The mobile station in Mildh also fails to select "... a core

network to which the communication device attempts to connect using the information received." Claim 25 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 26

Regarding Claim 26, Mildh fails to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 25, "... receiving the information in response to an unsuccessful core network connection attempt." Mildh does not disclose in a communication device receiving "... information including at least one of identities of at least some of the multiple core networks sharing the common access network..." let alone receiving such information in response to an unsuccessful network connection attempt. Claim 26 is thus further patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 34

Regarding Claim 34, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Mildh does not disclose or suggest a

... method in a communications network entity, the method comprising:
receiving preferred core network information from a communication device;
selecting a core network for the communication device;
giving consideration to the preferred core network information received from the communication device when selecting the core network for the communication device.

Mildh discloses selecting among GERAN or UTRAN technologies. According to Mildh, at para., [0015], the selection is based on registration information in the HLR, wherein the network may select the technology for the terminal. At para. [0035], Mildh alternatively permit the terminal to select the technology based on information stored in a SIM card on the terminal. At para. [0009], Mildh discusses furnishing a mobile station with parameter information for selecting the mode of operation of the mobile station in a mixed system comprising multiple core networks. Thus in Mildh, the network entity does not receive "... preferred core network information from a communication device" or "... giving consideration to the preferred core network information received from the communication device when selecting the core network for the communication device." Claim 34 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 35

Regarding Claim 35, Mildh fails to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 34, "... receiving the at least one preferred core network from a communication device in a connection request from the communication device." Mildh does not receive preferred core network information from the mobile station. Claim 35 is thus further patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 36

Regarding Claim 36, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Mildh does not disclose or suggest a

... method in a communications network entity, the method comprising:
receiving a communication device identity from a communication device;
selecting a core network from multiple core networks sharing a common access network for the communication device based on the communication device identity.

Mildh discloses selecting among GERAN or UTRAN technologies. According to Mildh, at para., [0015], the selection is based on registration information in the HLR, wherein the network may select the technology for the terminal. At para. [0035], Mildh alternatively permit the terminal to select the technology based on information stored in a SIM card on the terminal. At para. [0009], Mildh discusses furnishing a mobile station with parameter information for selecting the mode of operation of the mobile station in a mixed system comprising multiple core networks. In Mildh, the network entity does not select a core network from multiple core networks sharing a common access network for the communication device "... based on the communication device identity." Mildh is silent on the basis for selecting the operating mode of the mobile station. Claim 36 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Prayer For Relief

In view of the discussion above, kindly proceed with the substantive examination of Claims 1-37 pending in the present application without further delay.

Respectfully submitted,

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